(b) The reasons that could be attributed for the downward trend are (i) non-availability of funds, (ii) re-organisation of purchasing pattern, i.e. instead of buying by the centralised Agencies in the past for theh entire USSR, now each counry and the Fcderation buying individually, depending upon the funds, need and consumption pattern.

(c) For April-September, 1991 the exports to RCA countries was Rs. 146.65 crores.

(d) The exports made to GCA during 1991-92 were 1159.33 crores and 1992-93 Rs. 1039.97 crores (for April-December, 1992).

(SOURCE : Foreign Trade Statistics of India, DGCI&S, Calcutta)

700. [*Transferred to 13th May, 1993*]

भारतीय व्यापार संवर्धन संस्थान में चतुर्थ श्रेणी कर्मचारियों के रिक्त पद

701. **श्री मूल चन्द मीणा :**

श्री वी. नारायणसामी :

क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) उनके मंत्रालय के अधीन भारतीय व्यापार सवर्धन संस्थान में चतुर्थ श्रेणी कर्मचारियों के कितने पद रिक्त पड़े हुए हैं ;

(ख) इनमें से अनुसूचित जाति और अनुसूचित जनजाति के व्यक्तियों के लिए कितने पद आरक्षित हैं; और

(ग) इन पदों को अभी तक न भर पाने के क्या कारण हैं ?

नागरिक आपूर्ति, उपभोक्ता मामले और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री और वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में राज्यमंत्री का अतिरिक्त प्रभार (श्री कमालुद्दीन अहमद) : (क) से (ग) भारत व्यापार संवर्धन संगठन में चतुर्थ श्रेणी के 59 पद रिक्त पड़े हैं । इनमें से 39 (अनु. जाति के लिए 19 तथा अनु. जन जाति श्रेणी के लिए (20) पद अनुसूचित जाति और अनुसूचित जनजाति के लिए आरक्षित हैं । इन आरक्षित पदों को भरने के लिए विशेष भर्ती अभियान के तहत एक विज्ञापन दिया जा चुका है ।

Trade with East European Countries

702. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state the details of steps taken by Government to boost Indian trade with East European countries and countries which formed parts of the erstwhile Soviet Union ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : The various steps taken, on an ongoing basis, to boost Indian trade with East European countries and countries which formed parts of former Soviet Union include inter-alia, conclusion of new framework trade agreements substituting rupee payment trade by trade in freely convertible currencies, countertrade, conclusion of new and more extensive inter-banking arrangements, proposal to set up Joint Venture Banks, exchange of commercial visits, opening of new diplomatic missions, and trade representations, extension of credits, emphasis on promotion of joint ventures, encouragement to and promotion of direct business level contacts, development of transport and transit routes, and intensification of economic cooperation such as through training, provision of expertise and consultancy services etc.

Increase in Prices of Coffee

703. SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) what are the reasons for the sudden increase in the prices of raw coffee and blended powder sold in the domestic market; and

(b) what are the steps taken by Government to bring the prices under con-

trol so that the poor and the middle class people do not suffer ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) & (b) The selling prices of raw coffee and blended powder sold through the promotional units of the Board are fixed on the basis of average auction prices plus Rs. 7|- per kg. to cover overhead expenses. The average auction prices of January and February, 1993 were taken for fix ng the selling prices for the quarter April-June, 1993. In view of the steadily rising demand for h'gh quality coffes, the prices of high quality plantation and especially the PB grade have been increasing steadily. Compared to the recent auction of Internal Sale Quota portion of coffee conducted by the Indian Coffee Trade Association, a private body, the prices fixed by the Coffee Board are not high. The price is high only for high quality plantation PB which constitutes around 5 per cent of total production. The sale prices of other grades are much lower. The growers have been allotted Internal Sale Quota for this season @ 30 percent of their production and they are free to sell the Internal Sale Quota in the Internal Market.

Export of Indian Goods

704. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any assessment has been made of the countries where Indian goods are likely to be exported in 1993-94;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what is the quantum of actual and estimated exports in terms of Rupee and US doller to the developed and developing countries in 1992-93 and 1993-94 respectively, countrywise ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) Besides continuing of increase in exports to General Currency Area (GCA) countries, there are prospects of revival of exports to Rupee Payment Area (RPA) and other East European Countries.

(c) The value of exports in terms of rupee and US $ during April-January 1992-93 to developed and developing countries is attached at Statement I & II respectively. Estimates of exports for 1993-94 have not been made.

Statement-I

INDIA'S EXPORTS TO PRINCIPAL DEVELOPED COUNTRIES DURING APRIL—JANUARY, 1992-93

Country	Exports in Rs. Crores	Exports in US $ Million	Country	Exports in Rs. Crores	Exports in US $ million
Igiu	1495.97	523.14	Spain	478.08	167.18
Denmark	198.78	69.51	U.K.	2899.13	1013.83
France	1071.56	374.73	Australia	525.95	183.92
FRG	3286.32	1149.23	Canada	439.96	153.85
Greece	101.78	35.59	Finland	106.17	37.13
Ireland	59.73	20.89	Sweden	238.32	83.34
Italy	1436.19	502.24	Switzerland	462.77	161.83
Luxembourg	1.89	0.66	Japan	3205.94	1121.12
Netherland	916.59	320.53	USA	7898.05	2761.95
Portugal	118.26	41.36			